

In the Claims:

Please enter the following as the claims in this case.

1 (currently amended). An antibody that specifically binds to mammalian IgE at an epitope wherein said epitope is ~~between amino acids 145-166 of mammalian IgE~~ selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO: 10 and SEQ ID NO:11.

2 (currently amended). The antibody of claim 1, wherein said mammalian IgE is dog IgE; further wherein said dog IgE is a dog IgE epitope SEQ ID NO:9.

3 (original). The antibody of claim 1, wherein said antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

4 (original). The antibody of claim 1, wherein said antibody is a mouse antibody.

5 (original). The antibody of claim 1 coupled to a detectable group.

6 (original). The antibody of claim 1 coupled to a member of a specific binding pair.

7 (withdrawn). A method of testing for allergen reactivity of an IgE sample, comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a sample containing IgE to a solid support, said solid support having an allergen coupled thereto; and then

(b) contacting said solid support to at least one antibody of claim 1, and then

(c) determining the presence or absence of antibody coupled to said solid support, the presence of antibody coupled to said solid support indicating that said IgE in said sample is reactive to said allergen.

8 (withdrawn). The method of claim 7, wherein said determining step is carried out by enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA).

9 (withdrawn). The method of claim 7, wherein said allergen is selected from the group consisting of mold, pollen, dust mite, milk, egg, soy, peanut and corn allergens.

10 (withdrawn). The method of claim 7, wherein said sample is a biological sample collected from a dog, cat or horse.

11 –16 (cancelled) .

17 (withdrawn). A method of testing for allergen reactivity of an IgE sample, comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting a sample containing IgE to a solid support, said solid support having an allergen coupled thereto; and then

(b) contacting said solid support to at least one antibody of claim 1, and then

(c) determining the presence or absence of antibody coupled to said solid support, the presence of antibody coupled to said solid support indicating that said IgE in said sample is reactive to said allergen.

18 (withdrawn). The method of claim 17, wherein said determining step is carried out by enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA).

19 (withdrawn). The method of claim 17, wherein said allergen is selected from the group consisting of mold, pollen, dust mite, milk, egg, soy, peanut and corn allergens.

20 (withdrawn). The method of claim 17, wherein said sample is a biological sample collected from a dog, cat or horse.

21 (withdrawn; currently amended). A method of detecting mammalian IgE, comprising:

(a) providing (i) a first monoclonal antibody that specifically binds to an epitope between amino acid positions 356-374 of a mammalian IgE; and (ii) a second monoclonal antibody of claim 3 ~~that specifically binds to an epitope between amino acid positions 145-166 of mammalian IgE;~~

(b) contacting a sample suspected of containing mammalian IgE to said first and second monoclonal antibodies, under conditions in which one of said first and second monoclonal antibodies is immobilized on a solid support and the other of said first and second monoclonal

antibodies is coupled to a detectable group, so that said detectable group is coupled to said solid support if mammalian IgE is present in said sample; and then

(c) detecting the presence or absence of said detectable group on said solid support; the presence of said detectable group on said solid support indicating the presence of mammalian IgE in said sample.

22 (withdrawn). The method of claim 21, wherein one of said monoclonal antibodies is coupled to a detectable group.

23 (withdrawn). The method of claim 22, wherein the other of said monoclonal antibodies is coupled to a solid support.

24 (withdrawn). The method of claim 22, wherein the other of said monoclonal antibodies is coupled to a first member of a specific binding pair, and wherein a second member of said specific binding pair is coupled to said solid support, so that said monoclonal antibody is coupled to said solid support by the binding of said specific binding pair.

25 (currently amended). A test kit, comprising:

(a) a monoclonal antibody that specifically binds to an epitope ~~between amino acid positions 356-374~~ of a mammalian IgE wherein said epitope is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, and SEQ ID NO:3; and

(b) a monoclonal antibody that specifically binds to an epitope ~~between amino acid positions 145-166~~ of mammalian IgE wherein said epitope is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:10, and SEQ ID NO:11.

26 (original). The test kit of claim 25, wherein at least one of said monoclonal antibodies is coupled to a detectable group.